

Message Text

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53

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 IGA-01 /091 W

----- 092200

R 101050Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2659

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

UNCLAS SAIGON 01586

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS/PINT, VS

SUBJ: PRESIDENT THIEU MAKES PRE-TET HOLIDAY VISITS TO FRONT

1. DURING THE PAST FEW DAYS PRESIDENT NGUYEN VAN THIEU VISITED MR I, II, ON A PRE-TET HOLIDAY TOUR OF FRONT-LINE ARVN UNITS. ON FEB 5 AND 6 THE PRESIDENT VISITED AREAS OF OPERATION OF THE 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD ARVN DIVISIONS, I CORPS AND I CORPS FORWARD HEADQUARTERS AND THE HUE CITADEL. ON FEB 6 THIEU FLEW FROM DANANG TO PLEIKU AND BINH DINH IN MR II VISITING ELEMENTS OF THE 23RD AND 22ND DIVISIONS. ON FEB 8 THE PRESIDENT VISITED THE 5TH DIVISION AT BINH DUONG AND 25TH DIVISION AT TAY NINH.

2. THIEU ADDRESSED VARIOUS UNITS, AND EXCERPTS OF HIS REMARKS WERE CARRIED IN LOCAL PRESS. TRIP RECEIVED HEAVY VIETNAMESE TV COVERAGE. SOME PAPERS SEE "HINT" THAT PRESIDENT WILL STAND FOR REELECTION IN HIS STATEMENT: "IF IN THE COMING DAYS, THE PEOPLE AND ARMED FORCES IN SOUTH VIETNAM HAVE PROVED THEY ARE STEADFAST IN THEIR RESISTANCE AGAINST COMMUNISM."

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NIST AGGRESSION, I WILL CONTINUE MY RESPONSIBILITY AS CHIEF

OF THIS COUNTRY." THE PRESIDENT ALSO WAS REPORTED TO HAVE
EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE TO THE TROOPS THAT ADDITIONAL US
MILITARY ASSISTANCE WOULD BE FORTHCOMING TO SVN.
LEHMANN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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